

St. Patrick's Catholic High School has a long history, stretching back over 75 years, with more than 40 of them linked with the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. Because it was originally associated with the new St. Patrick's College, it was called St. Patrick's College High School when it was established in 1929. In the beginning, St. Patrick's College High School was housed in St. Joseph Parish Hall on Laurier Avenue East in Ottawa. The two-storey, red brick hall accommodated the 135 students registered in the first year of the high school, and was staffed by seven teachers.

In the following year, St. Patrick's College High School moved to join the new St. Patrick's College at a joint campus on Echo Drive. The full complex of buildings envisioned for this campus never materialized because of the onset of the Depression, but the impressive main building facing Echo Drive and the Rideau Canal would remain the home of St. Patrick's College High School for almost four decades.

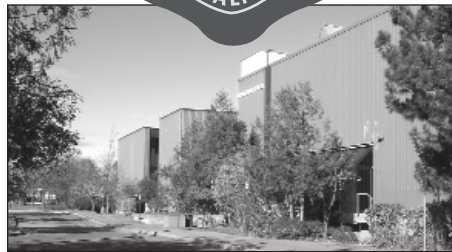
Total enrolment at the Echo Drive campus in 1930 for both St. Patrick's College of the University of Ottawa and St. Patrick's College High School was 392 students, taught by a faculty of 22. At this Echo Drive campus, the Oblates of Mary Immaculate (St. Peter's Province) became associated with Canadian Martyrs Parish. Masses were held in the college chapel until the church was built in 1931.

St. Patrick's College High School took in boarders from the Ottawa Valley area as well as from farther afield. This practice continued until 1964, which marked the end of "Boardertown" at St. Patrick's.

In 1968, after St. Patrick's College became affiliated with Carleton University, St. Patrick's College High School was relocated to the Campanile Campus at

ST. PATRICK'S

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



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1485 Heron Road, where St. Patrick's shared the location with Notre Dame High School, run by the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame. Notre Dame had just moved there from its century-old site on Gloucester Street in Ottawa. The Campanile campus was designed as a multi-building site connected by underground tunnels. This 1968 move also saw the school change its name from St. Patrick's College High School to simply St. Patrick's High School. The Oblates of Mary Immaculate continued to manage and teach at the school but those days were numbered. In 1973, the Oblates' active involvement in the administration of the school came to an end.

The school was temporarily renamed St. Jude's Junior High School for the 1972-73 school year, before readopting its previous, historic name in the fall of 1973. Because the higher grades were no longer accommodated, it became known as St. Patrick's Junior High School. The name St. Patrick's High School returned in 1986 when the school once again became a full-fledged secondary school with the extension of full funding to Catholic high schools by the Provincial Government.

St. Patrick's High School remained at the 1485 Heron Road site until 1993, when it was moved once again, this time to the nearby 2525 Alta Vista Drive site that it currently occupies, previously the location of the former Charlebois High School of the French Catholic School Board.

St. Patrick's High School has developed a number of traditions. The school band trip to New York City every two years is one, as are the semi-annual school band concerts, which are staged at the school. St. Patrick's holds an annual stage production as well as a variety of charity events such as clothing drives, a 30-hour famine and involvement with food baskets. In recent years, St. Patrick's has inaugurated a major annual fundraising event, a "Breakfast for Cancer Research" raising \$4,137 in 2003. This has been surpassed in each successive year by totals of \$8,824 in 2004, \$14,255 in 2005 and \$15,000 in 2006. These funds go to the Ottawa Regional Cancer Centre Foundation. St. Patrick's also has student ambassadors, senior students who wear green blazers with the school crest, and function as representatives of St. Patrick's both within the school and amid the community-at-large, often volunteering with charitable organizations.

St. Patrick's sports teams are also a formidable force in high school leagues.

Present Principal

Ronald Chisholm (2005-present)

Past Principals

Albert Meereboer, O.M.I. (1929-30)
J. Harold Conway, O.M.I. (1947-

63)

Frank Kavanaugh, O.M.I. (1964-69)
Carl Kelly, O.M.I. (1969-72)
Frank Kavanaugh, O.M.I. (1972-73) (as St. Jude's Junior High School)
John Knobel (1973-76) (as St. Patrick's Junior High School)
Robert Kendall (1976-83)
Michael Nolan (1983-84)
Georges Bouliane (1984-85)
Sister Anna Clare Berrigan (1985-86) and (1986-89 at St. Patrick's High School)
Walter Hempey (1989-93) and (1993-96 at St. Patrick's High School on Alta Vista Drive)
John Shaughnessy (1996-2000)
Joseph Mullally (2000-05)

Rectors

(St. Patrick's College High School)

Thomas M. Kennedy, O.M.I. (1929-30)
Edward Killian, O.M.I. (1929-30)
Denis J. Moriarty, O.M.I. (1930-32)
Patrick Phelan, O.M.I. (1932-35)
Leo Corrmican, O.M.I. (1935-44)
Lawrence K. Poupore, O.M.I. (1944-53)
Gerald E. Cousineau, O.M.I. (1953-59)
John J. Kelly, O.M.I. (1959-68)

Deans

(St. Patrick's College High School)

Farrell E. Banim, O.M.I. (1948-61)
Hugh A. MacDougall, O.M.I. (1962-68)

First Teaching and Support Staff

Oblates who taught at St. Patrick's High School during the period 1929-1973

F. Banim
L. Bartley
F. Beck
W. Bernardo
J. Beveridge
L. Beveridge
R. Boucher
S. Bowers
J. Burns
L. Burns
D. Cahill
C. Callanan
C. Campbell
F. Campbell
K. Campbell
M. Campbell
J. Cardo
P. Carpenter
T. Cassidy
E. Clark
P. Collins
E. Connolly
H. Conway
C. Coppens
L. Cormican
G. Cousineau
H. Cromey
J. Curtin
A. Daley
H. Dalton
L. Devine
D. Devoe
W. Doran
J. Dourley
G. Dowsett
D. Driscoll
H. Dunlop
W. Elliott
N. Enright
F. Finley
D. Finnegan
K. Forster
R. Gallagher
D. Galvin
D. Gillen

A. Gillis
J. Greene
E. Greene
A. Hall
W. Hanley
J. Hattie
F. Hennessy
F. Hobart
P. Howard
T. Hughes
G. Irving
N. Jette
A. Jordan
F. Kavanagh
L. Keighley
C. Helly
J. Kelly
T. Kennedy
B. Kerr
E. Killian
J. Lambert
C. Lavigne
V. LaPlante
P. Linehan
J. Linnehan
P. Little
W. Loftus
A. Macrae
E. MacDonald
L. MacDonald
H. MacDougall
A. MacInnes
A. MacKinnon
E. MacNeil
E. Marcuk
G. Mason
J. Massel
J. McAllister
H. McCabe
J. McCann
J. McCart
F. McCormack
J. McDonald
L. McDonald
A. McDonnell
J. McGrath
D. McIntosh
B. McKenna

B. McLean
 D. McLeod
 K. McNamara
 J. McNeil
 E. McSheffrey
 A. Meereboer
 B. Megannety
 J. Michael
 P. Miller
 T. Mitchell
 T. Moreau
 M. Morgan
 D. Moriarity
 D. Morin
 J. Mullany
 J. Mulligan
 J. Mulvihill
 T. Murphy
 J. Noonan
 T. O'Beirne
 J. O'Connor
 P. O'Dwyer
 F. O'Grady
 O. O'Regan
 P. O'Reilly
 L. Paradis
 M. Peake
 M. Pehlan
 P. Phelan
 J. Pollock
 L. Poupore
 M. Power
 D. Pruner
 O. Rich
 C. Rushton
 J. Ryan
 F. Salmon
 M. Schroeder
 D. Schumph
 A. Sheehan
 J. Sheehan
 J. Sherry
 R. Smith
 H. Sorenson
 P. Spratt
 F. Stafford
 J. Stanton
 N. St. Louis

P. Sutton
 L. Sweeney
 T. Swift
 F. Tedrow
 W. Thompson
 P. Tobin
 J. Trainor
 T. Usher
 J. Vaneden
 F. Wallis
 D. Walsh
 E. Watson
 B. Wren
 J. Zachary

These 155 names are engraved on a plaque that was mounted on an Oblate cross and presented to the students and staff of St. Patrick's High School on the occasion of the renewal of the traditional links with the Oblates of St. Peter's Province on March 17, 1986.

Staff Recognition

Rev. J. Harold Conway, former teacher and principal, received the Order of Canada in 1976.

Laura Gillespie, Department Head of Physical Education, received the National Capital Secondary Schools Athletic Association Fellows Award in 2004. This award is presented to a person who has contributed to high school sports in a non-coaching role.

Thomas M. Cassidy, O.M.I. (1956), former teacher and principal who received the Order of Canada and who wrote *Roots and Branches: A Diary of St. Peter's Province*.

Former Students

John Turner, Prime Minister of Canada in 1984

Dan Aykroyd (1969), an Oscar-nominated and Emmy-winning actor, writer, director and musician

Bob Chiarelli, Chairperson of the Regional Municipal of Ottawa-Carleton and first mayor of the new amalgamated City of Ottawa (2001)

Jim Kyte, National Hockey League player with the Winnipeg Jets and an advocate for the deaf community

Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario and Leader of the Liberal Party of Ontario

Wilbert Keon (1957), founder of the Ottawa Heart Institute and a senator

Roydon Kealey, a provincial court justice

Peter Wright (1972), a provincial court justice

Garry Guzzo (1963), a former provincial court justice and former MPP for the Ottawa area

Michael Chambers, President of the Canadian Olympic Committee

Chris Nihmey (1992), children's author

Valdy (Valdemar Horsdal), Juno award winning folk singer

Claude Pilon (1970), a gold medal winning wrestler in the 1974 Commonwealth Games

Mark Pilon, son of Claude Pilon, and a Canadian Football League player with the Calgary Stampeders, Grey Cup winners in 2001

Angelo Gavillucci (1977), a silver medalist in sledge hockey in the Paralympics in Nagano, Japan in 1998

Mary Dalipaj (2003), who received an outstanding employee award from the University of Ottawa Heart Institute

Logo and Motto (Armorial Bearings)

In September 1999, Rev. Thomas Cassidy, O.M.I., who graduated from St. Patrick's in 1956 and was a staff member from 1964 to 1973, had a chance meeting with the Chief Herald of Canada, Robert Douglas Watt. From Mr. Watt, he learned about the function of the Chief Herald, which is the issuing of royal crests and coats of arms for Canadian institutions and individuals.

St. Patrick's High School has had a crest and motto since its founding in 1929, most probably drawn by Brother John Pollock, O.M.I., a British-educated staff member. Mr. Watt suggested that these could be submitted for official recognition. Father Cassidy did this. Although it took two years of research and work, the efforts proved worthwhile, as the armorial bearings of St. Patrick's High School in Ottawa was granted by the Canadian Crown under powers which are exercised by the Governor-General and which are "entered in the Public Register of Arms, Flags and Badges of Canada" were formally presented to the school on Wednesday, March 6, 2002.

Official notice of these armorial bearings was published in Part 1 of the *Canada Gazette* under the title "Government House." All armorial bearings are honours from the Canadian Crown. They provide

recognition for Canadian individuals and corporate bodies of the contribution that they make both in Canada and elsewhere. The eligibility of St. Patrick's High School in Ottawa was thoroughly researched from its founding in 1929, and the armorial bearings were approved by the Chief Herald of Canada and were granted by the Chancellor of the Canadian Heraldic Authority in the name of the Governor-General, the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson. The Governor-General issued the approval for the armorial bearings on July 5, 2001. It must be noted that all grants of armorial bearings are made by the Crown to be valid forever and can be changed only by that same Crown.

The school logo bears the name of the school, St. Patrick's High School, as well as the motto "Religio Alit Artes."

School song

Students wrote a school song in 1996. The words of the song are:

Green and Gold
Our Spirits Bold,
Here at St. Pat's High.

Come and see us,
Come and hear us,
Raise your spirits high.

Here we learn
To be Our Best,
We Reach Towards
The sky.

Years will come and go,
But we'll keep the flow
At St. Pat's High.

Other Events

In one of his first public appearances as Premier of Ontario, Dalton McGuinty, a St. Patrick's High School graduate, visited the school in 2003 and addressed students and staff.

The school celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2004. A video to mark the occasion was produced by Roy Ketcheson, a creative arts teacher at St. Patrick's.

The school enjoyed a visit by entertainers Dan Aykroyd, a former student, and Jim Belushi, in 1996.

The first St. Patrick's High School newspaper, *The Patrician*, was published in 1934 under the editorship of Leo Devine, O.M.I.

World War II

A total of 86 former students of St. Patrick's gave their lives in World War II (1939-45).

Alumni Association

The Alumni Association is known as "The Friends of St. Pat's."

Dress Code

The current dress code at St. Patrick's High School is black dress pants, white dress shirt or polo shirt with the St. Patrick's name, green plaid kilt or black skirt, green sweat shirt with plaid letter "P," green cardigan or pullover with St. Patrick's crest, green blazer with St. Pat's crest, green rugby shirt with St. Pat's and the letter "P." It is not necessary to wear all of these items at once.

From a Teacher at St. Patrick's Catholic High School

I was hired as Head of Social Sciences at St. Patrick's High School by Principal Sister Anna Clare in the fall of 1987. I was keen on initiating two specific projects — to launch a student field trip to Washington, D.C. and to resurrect a football program at St. Pat's.

At lunch one day, I mentioned my field trip idea to a colleague, whereupon I heard Sister utter, "Over my dead body!" to Vice-Principals John Shaughnessy and Bernie Swords with whom she was having lunch. However, I proceeded with a plan and presented it to Sister. On the day in May 1989, when I was leaving for Washington with a busload of senior students, Sister met me at her office door with \$300 in cash, telling me to ensure that the students who might run out of money would have food for the duration of the trip.

When I informed Sister about the plan my colleague Larry Patterson and I had to bring football back to St. Pat's, Sister curtly informed me that she did not want football and that there would never be a football program at the school. Larry and I, however, continued, along with colleagues Marc Mes and Dave Waterhouse, to put together a detailed plan extolling the benefits of football to the school as well as other information including research on sports injuries in high schools and financial details about the program. After we made this presentation, Sister passed by me in the lunchroom and with a slight smile said, "Very interesting."

In September 1989, the "St. Pat's Fighting Irish" hit the field for the first time since 1975, defeating Laurentian High School in the process.

The Washington trip and the football team would not have happened without Sister Anna Clare's ability to adjust to credible and legitimate information and without her concern for her students' interests and complete education. It was a pleasure and a privilege to work with her.

Michael Nihmey



